

NATIBO Annual Meeting 9-10 June 2009

The NATIBO Steering Committee met on 9-10 June 2009, in Vancouver, British Columbia. Canada's Department of National Defence hosted the annual meeting. Representatives from the Joint Services, as well as from the U.S. Department of Homeland Defense, the Defense Contracts Management Agency, the Defense Logistics Agency, and the Canadian Commercial Corporation participated in the meeting.

The meeting served to update the NATIBO Steering Committee on the ongoing initiatives of the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) and the Canadian Department of National Defence (DND), under the auspices of NATIBO and to receive strategic guidance for the coming year. Discussion topics included the current environment within the U.S. and Canada, selected Work Plans within the NATIBO Business Plan, the Alternative Fuels and Infantry Soldier Modernization Working Groups' Terms of References, the Defense Industrial Base/Critical Infrastructure Program Project Arrangement, the Joint Defense Manufacturing Technology Panel Power Sources Cell Roadmap, Thermal Batteries, and Silverized Haemostatic Bandages. Attendees included representatives from the Joint Services, Deputy under Secretary of Defense, Advanced Systems & Concepts and Industrial Policy, Canada Department of National Defence and other stakeholders.

The attendees also toured three defense industries located in the Vancouver area:

1) Bionic Power. Bionic Power is a company that has developed the Bionic Energy Harvester, a wearable technology that unobtrusively generates electricity from the natural motion of walking and uses it to charge a wide range of portable battery-powered devices. The Harvester resembles an orthopedic knee brace, weighs about two pounds, and extracts up to seven watts of electricity from each leg - roughly the amount needed to simultaneously operate 14 mobile phones.

2) NGRAIN Corporation. NGRAIN is a privately-held company based in Vancouver that designs, develops and markets interactive, 3D visualization and real time simulation software tools for geospatial and medical applications.

3) Mist Mobility Integrated System Technology Inc. (MMIST). MMIST is a Canadian developer and manufacturer of precision aerial delivery systems. MMIST has developed solutions for carrying, releasing and controlling the delivery of supplies and equipment with ram air parachutes.

The 2010 annual meeting will be hosted by the U.S. Army.